

Marylhurst Neighborhood Association

September 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Oakes. A quorum was present and four guests.

Agenda was approved with the addition of Overgrown Vegetation in Marylhurst DR right of way

Minutes of November 26, 2019 and August 25, 2020 were approved as drafted.

Community Comments Candidates for West Linn Mayor Rich Sakelik and Andrew Mallory each gave a short presentation.

Treasurer Report deferred to next meeting.

Neighborhood Association Presidents Meeting Report

1) Election signs are treated as temporary signs in the Municipal Code. Basically, a property is allowed five standard-sized signs, placed two feet from edge of sidewalk, three feet from street edge if no sidewalk and ten feet from an intersection corner. No signs are allowed in the public right of way or on public property.

2) Citizen Vision Goals draft

The Council will be considering the recommendations made by the Planning Commission and neighborhood associations, including MNA, soon. We could review the draft again and make any recommendations.

“Middle Housing Bill” House Bill 2001 and House Bill 2003

Councilor Cummings reported that HB 2001 passed by the legislature, requires cities of our size to allow duplexes/triplexes in all residential zones. HB 2003 requires cities to analyze housing needs and find ways to meet them. Challenges will be parking, safety and homeowners associations. City will start with education of the community and move into public involvement until about February. See Council September 8 meeting presentation for more information.

Communications Tower Update

President Oakes clarified that the tower was only put on hold until January when C800 will have better studied the need after the network has been operating and then have public involvement. Council reviewed the City Attorney memo about two processes for annexation. Expedited would be the easiest because the property owner's consent is not needed. Regular annexation requires the property owner's permission and the process is more involved. Council directed the City Manager to ask the property owner, Oregon Department of Transportation, if willing to annex. Memo was shared on screen with members and submitted for the minutes.

Landscaping at Marylhurst Heights sign

Challenges of the site and the difficulty finding a licensed landscaper turned to discussion of ways to keep the weeds down. Cary Cummings volunteered to look into wood chips and Treasurer Sydney Potowski may plant chrysanthemums. Jim Koll will submit a list of landscapers to pursue the project for planting next Spring.

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New Business

Nominations for MNA Officers are open until next meeting when elections will take place. President Oakes is willing to run for President or Secretary. She has been acting Secretary while the position is vacant and would like to see the Board operate fully. She urged members to volunteer. Vice President Tom Neff is willing to run for VP.

Assistance to Neighbors

Ideas of donating to a charity or WL Food Bank were discussed. Jim Koll, past MNA Treasurer, reminded that money must be spent to benefit the community of Marylhurst Neighborhood. He recalled the benefits of the corn garden one year at Marylhurst Heights Park that he and other members established and worked. Large donations were made to the Food Bank and neighbors. A community garden like that at Willamette Park was suggested. Blueberry bushes are low maintenance might be planted throughout the Park. It was noted that there is a lot of watered grass area designated for overflow parking that is never used. This item will be taken up at a future meeting.

Overgrown Vegetation in Marylhurst DR Right of Way

The vegetation has continued to grow unabated and in some places is over the fog line, compromising pedestrian and bike safety. Recent storms blew tree and vegetation debris onto the street adding to the problem. Street cleaning seemed less effective because of the overgrowth. Previous paint striping of the fog line went right over debris. Neither operation seemed to be a good use of City resources.

President Oakes reminded members of the efforts MNA has made in the past year to resolve the problem and that it is the responsibility of the resident adjacent the ROW to maintain it. The City Engineer said this is true for the undeveloped ROW for View DR that extends from the area of the Marylhurst Heights sign for blocks into the Skyline Ridge neighborhood. She thought people might not know that the City stopped maintaining some ROWs and their responsibilities. It was asked if a work party was allowed and was there any interest, but none was expressed.

Discussion centered on what would be the best method to inform people. Members thought MNA had met its responsibility to inform the City of the situation. Members did not want to point fingers at their neighbors or for MNA to do it. The idea to mail a postcard or letter to residences along Marylhurst DR was discussed. There was consensus to ask the City to send a letter to residences on Marylhurst DR about ROW responsibilities. Also, the City should be informed of the lost effectiveness of street cleaning and paint striping caused by the overgrown vegetation. President Oakes will send a letter to the City Engineer, Lance Calvert.

Treasurer Sydney Potowsky asked if any type of social might be possible. COVID has interfered with the social events she volunteered to plan. Adherence to the Governor's orders restricting large gatherings would not allow it. City indoor facilities cannot be reserved and outdoor events in cold weather may not be well attended.

Meeting Adjourned. Next meeting October 27, 2020